

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 10, and 18 have been canceled without prejudice and claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 11, 16 and 17 have been amended in response to the instant Office Action. No new matter is added by the amendments to claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 11, 16 and 17.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 3-8, 10-15 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim, and any intervening claims.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Pub. No. 2002/0145472 ("Oh") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,577,259 ("Jelonnek").

Reconsideration is also respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-2 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oh in view of Jelonnek.

Claims 1, 9 and 16 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claims 3, 10 and 18 respectively.

Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicant submits that claims 1, 9 and 16 are patentable over the cited references.

For at least the reason that claim 2 depends from claim 1, and claim 17 depends from claim 16, claims 2 and 17 are also submitted to be patentable over the cited references.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the

rejections of claims 1, 2, 9, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicant's Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank Chau
Reg. No. 34,136
Attorney for Applicant

F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLC
130 Woodbury Road
Woodbury, NY 11797
(516) 692-8888